History of the Tucson Area

European Exploration and Settlements

Agenda

- Introduction
- Spanish Era Exploration and Settlement
- United States Era Exploration and Settlement
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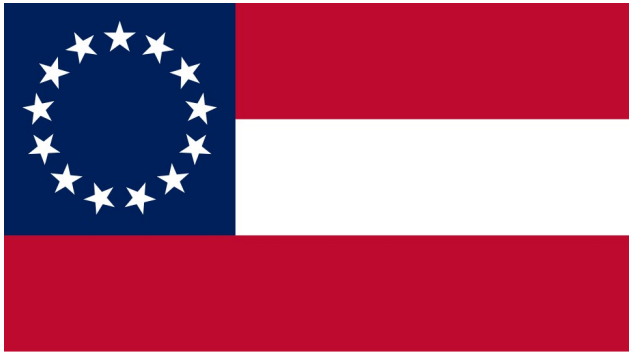
Introduction

- Tucson has had the flags of four different countries:
  - Spain
  - Mexico
  - Confederate States
  - United States

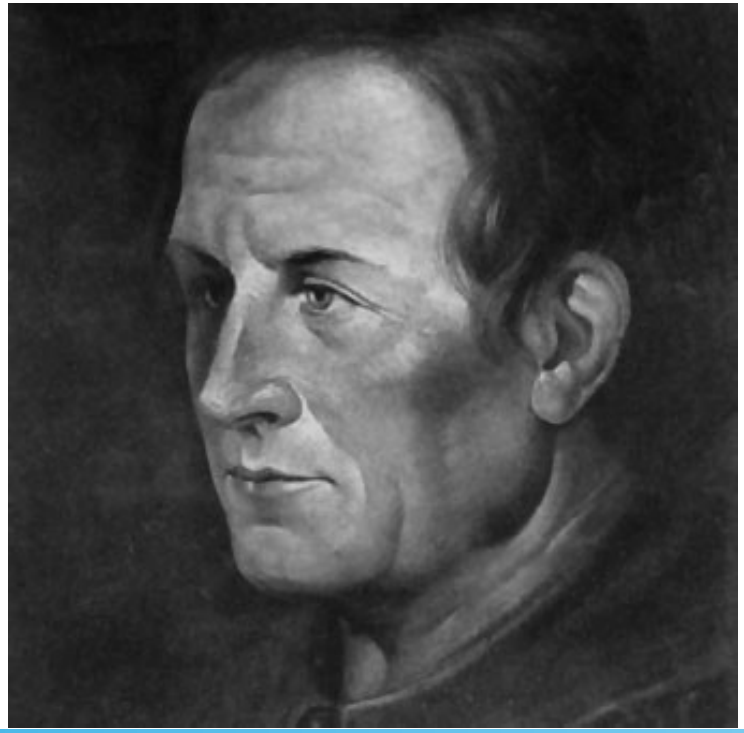


Spanish Tucson

- 1539 – Marcos de Niza Expedition
- 1540 – Coronado Expedition – very large expedition (400 soldiers, 1300 to 2000 Indian allies) traveled through San Pedro River (East of Tucson)

Spanish Tucson

- 1692 – Eusebio Francisco Kino visits the Santa Cruz River valley



Spanish Tucson

- Not all fun and games…..
- Father Saeta killed by Indian
- 1695

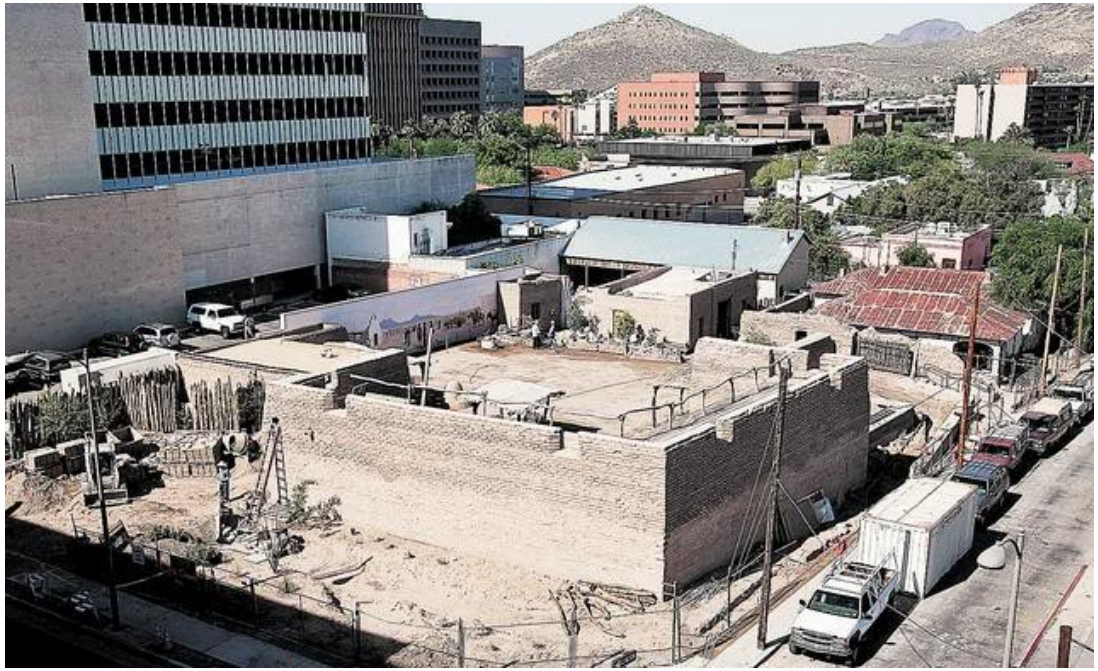
Muerte del Padre Saeta.

Spanish Tucson

- Kino founded Mission San Xavier in 1692
- Several different structures have existed over the centuries

Spanish Tucson

- Presidio San Agustin del Tucson established 20 August

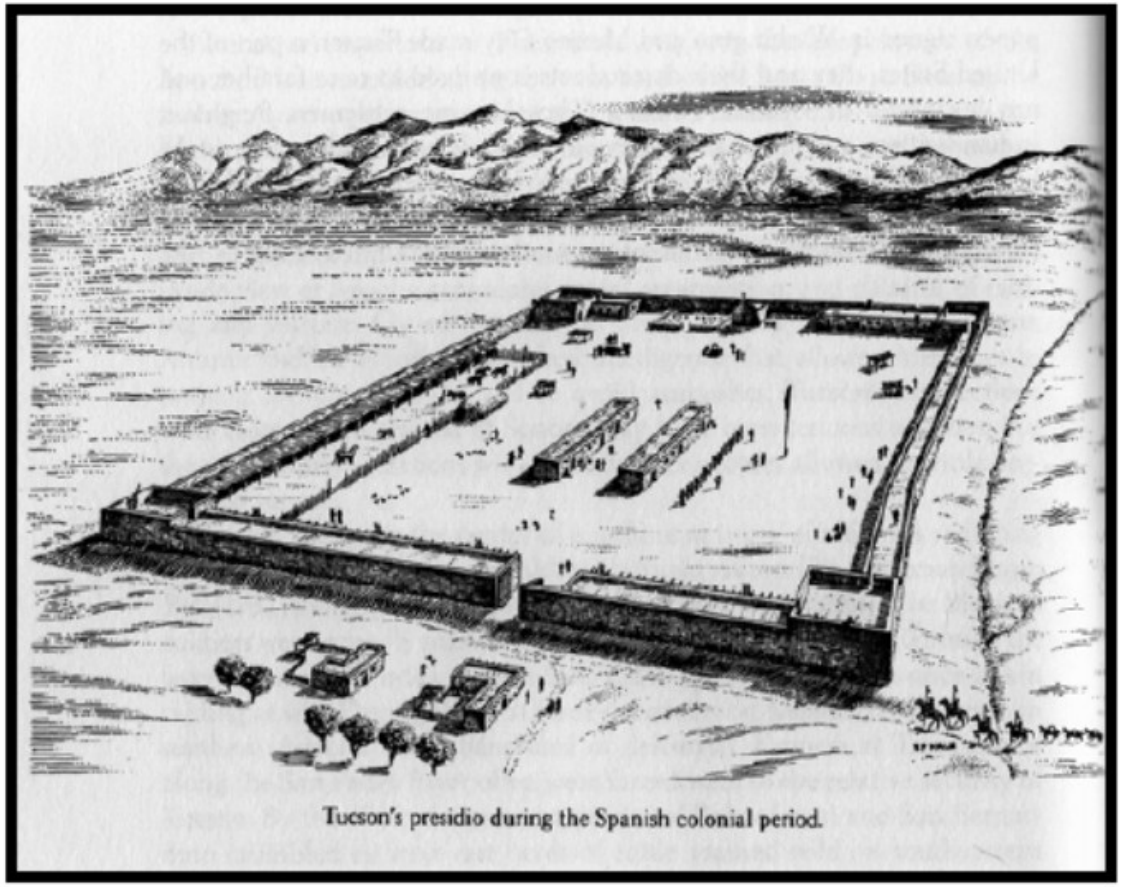


Spanish Tucson

- Irishman Hugh O’Conor, working for Spanish Government, was the military governor of Tucson 1767 – 1770
- Left Ireland, joined Spain to fight against the British
- He was the “Founding Father” of Tucson

Spanish Tucson

- Mainly a Spanish military outpost at first



Tucson's presidio during the Spanish colonial period.

Spanish Tucson

- Region subjected to constant attacks by Apaches

Spanish Army Fights Apaches

- First Battle of Tucson 1779
- Second Battle of Tucson 1782

Mexican Tucson

- Mexico gains independence from Spain 1821
- Acquires former Spanish territories
- Tucson included in Mexican state of Sonora

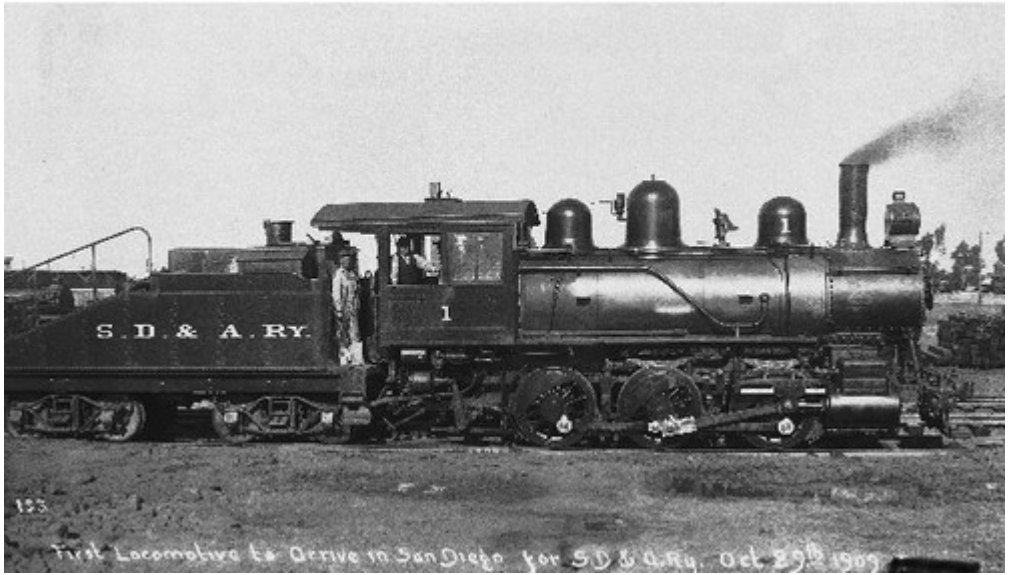
Mexican Tucson

- Tucson captured by U.S. Army in Mexican-American War
- Mormon Battalion captures it 16 December 1846
- Returned to Mexico after war

American Tucson

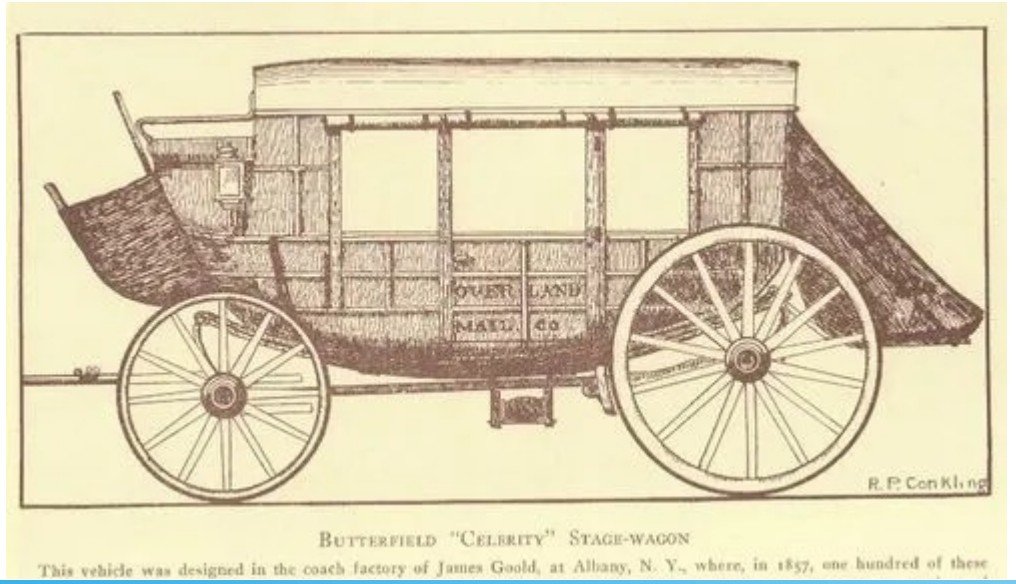
- U.S. Purchases Southern Arizona in Gadsden Purchase
- 8 June 1854
- Wanted a Southern mail and rail route to California

San Diego Historical Society



American Tucson

- San Antonio–San Diego Mail Line
- Established in 1857

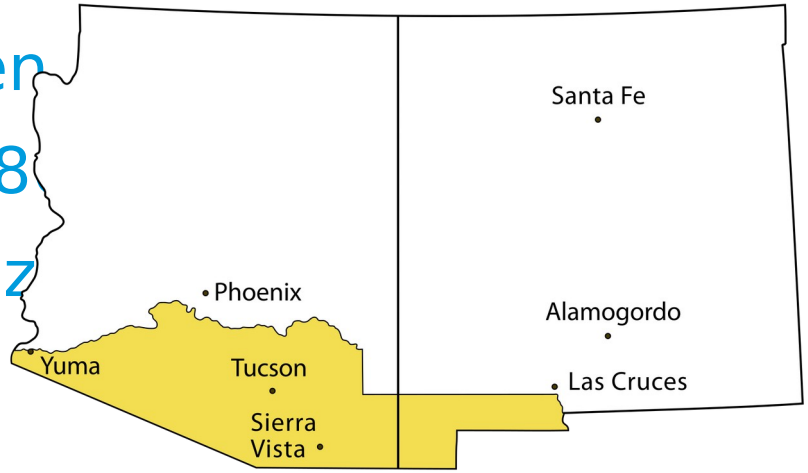


Butterfield "Celerity" Stage-wagon

This vehicle was designed in the coach factory of James Goold, at Albany, N. Y., where, in 1857, one hundred of these

Confederate Tucson

- During start of Civil War, in March 1861, secession conventions held in Tucson
- Arizona joins the Confederacy: Confederate Territory of Arizona
- Several military engagements seen
- Battle of Picacho Pass – 15 April 18
- Union Forces secured and held Ariz
- Tucson Incorporated in 1877



American Tucson

- Fort Lowell, US Army post founded in 1873 to 1891

American Tucson

- Train line arrives in Tucson in 20 March 1880
- Southern Pacific Railroad made first stop

American Tucson

- Population 1900: 7531 residents
- Population 1910: 13,913 residents
- Population 1920: 20,292 residents
- Population 1940: 36,818 residents

Tucson 1909:

American Tucson

Famous People

- **Wyatt Earp** (1848 – 1929) – Famous Deputy U.S. Marshall had gunfight at Tucson rail station
- **Solomon Warner** (1811 – 1899) – Early pioneer established business in Tucson
- **Isabella Greenway** (1886 – 1953) – Established Arizona Inn 1931, first Arizona female congressman (1932)
- John Dillinger (1903 – 1934) bank robber